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APPEALS TO ARCADIA.

Mr. Larsen Shows the Justice of the Division Cause.

EDITOR HERALD:—The undemocratic and determined opposition of our friends in the middle to any and all efforts which do not benefit them exclusively is a matter for serious consideration. Take the case of calling the executive committee together for the purpose of boosting Senator Humphries. The chairman is an Arcadian, and there can be no doubt but the scheme was gotten up for the purpose of doing a deed which they dared not do openly.

That Senator Humphries is opposed to county division is because secretly his pledge was made to our inland friends, in the primary of 1904, and in the election of that year the question was not an issue. It was generally agreed that conditions then did not favor division. General A. W. Gilchrist so stated in his talk to the voters as a candidate for the legislature; and the real true reason for that opinion was that it would be better to wait for the census and apportionment that would follow in the next election, and it was believed that there was some great constitutional mystery in the way of division.

Humphries and Gilchrist were both elected, and behold, Brevard county was divided. In a speech made at the time, the senator stated that he was pledged against division. As I have shown, not being an issue in his election, to whom did he make the pledge? It can now be seen plainly enough that secretly he made the pledge to his Arcadia masters, who are now trying to pay him for doing their will.

Two years ago, county division was very much of an issue, but the senator was not a candidate and, therefore, no need of making any pledge. While it is true that, in the total vote of DeSoto county, there was a small majority against division, said small majority was obtained by the solid vote of the inland territory in and about Arcadia. There was an overwhelming vote by the parties at interest in the territory asking for division, and I do contend that Senator Humphries could have helped the division, had he so desired, except perhaps for his obligation to Arcadia.

Two years ago, the writer undertook to find out from the solid men of Arcadia how they stood on local self-government, for say, the Southern part; but, sad to relate, found only one single man that expressed a reasonable view, which he did in these words:

"Well, Sir, after seeing from your standpoint, I agree that there is justice in the cause, but I should be sorry to see your people cut off from us, and I do believe that matters might be arranged so that we could stay together; but, if you must go, I concede your rights."

All the others, and they were a good many, hooted at the idea of division. No liberal views, no expression except power to hold us. The News and Champion openly boasted of their power and there is no doubt but the primary and all their efforts were based

upon, not right and justice, not democracy or liberty, but on a feeling that "we will show you, blame you!"

After all was over and we of the southern part took our medicine, many of my old friends said to me that any people who could fight as manly as we had and surrender as gracefully, should be forever kindly remembered by them etc.—

Now, fellow citizens of the interior, this time we come, and it is up to you to show that you can be reasonable. As we will never give you much credit for being good, only when you have your own way, help us to have our way this time and you may rest assured, but we will know how to appreciate it. Respectfully,

N. C. LARSEN.

An Election Forecast.

Some calm, dispassionate, yet shrewd political observer is writing forecasts for the Jacksonville Metropolis. In last Friday's issue of that paper, he gives the following:

The race for governor between Gilchrist, Stockton and Browne is somewhat overshadowed by the fact that there have been but two or three joint debates between these candidates. They have each been active, and only on one or two occasions has "ginger" been furnished. General Gilchrist has the best organization, and he has friends working for him in every county in the state. J. N. C. Stockton declares that he will win in the first primary, but in this view he is not sustained by those who know the difficulties in a three-cornered race and with thousands of silent voters.

It should also be remembered that Jefferson B. Browne has strong support in many counties. Some think that Stockton will have a plurality in the first primary, but Gilchrist's forces are doing very effective campaign work, and the "gentleman from Punta Gorda" is likely to lead in many South Florida counties, while Stockton will lead west of the Suwannee. In Duval county Gilchrist's friends have done telling work and are predicting a plurality for him here. This is due to certain issues that have become involved in the contest and to the fact that Stockton has no systematic organization in Jacksonville.

The same writer has the following in Saturday's Metropolis:

In the Governor's race the strength of Gilchrist in South Florida is readily acknowledged, while Stockton will lead in nearly all the West Florida counties. In newspaper support Stockton and Gilchrist break about even, with several non-committal. Browne has very little following among the newspaper men, yet none are making any attacks upon him. He has strength in Santa Rosa county, and his friends claim that he will get the "silent vote" throughout most of the counties.

In Duval county no one can make a forecast that can be counted reliable. It is very clear, however, that the race in Jacksonville is between Gilchrist and Stockton, with a very small following for Browne. The Gilchrist forces here are active, while no special work has been done in Duval county for Stockton.

HIGH SCHOOL CLOSES.

Exercises Attract and Delight Many People.

The closing exercises of the Punta Gorda high school occurred on Friday evening of last week and on Monday evening of this week. They were held in McAdow hall, which, on both evenings, was packed to overflowing with interested spectators. People who have attended many such occasions assert that these were the best they had ever seen; at any rate, every piece on each program was rendered in a manner so nearly approaching perfection that no flaw, no defect, no break was observed by the delighted spectators. And all the pieces, too, were well chosen, a fact that speaks highly for the taste of the teachers. Their skill in training the pupils, as well as the aptitude and ability of the pupils themselves, was fully shown by the precision and excellence of each and every performance, whether chorus, drill, reading, recitation, tableau or vocal or instrumental music.

A detailed notice of these highly interesting and creditable exercises cannot be given in this paper, but we append the programs, which will give some idea of the character of the entertainments furnished by the high school teachers and their pupils. The program for Friday night was as follows:

Chorus, The Merry Mermaids, Warner.

Invocation, Dr. Head.

Parasol Drill, Third Grade.

Recitation, When I am a Man, twelve boys.

Duett, Electric Flash Gallop, Mary Sandlin and Maive McCann.

Song, Blue Jay, Primary Department.

Reading, My Experience With a Refractory Cow, Helen Huffman.

The Gypsy's Warning, (Tableau—Wedding scene,) Eighth Grade.

Floral Rainbow Drill.

Recitation, The Last Hymn, Nellie Whittaker.

Left Drill.

Instrumental Solo, Camille Lester.

Reading, Composition on Animals, Charley Griggs.

"Boys May Whistle but Girls Must Sing."

"A visit from Mother Goose and Family."

Chorus, Gaily Home We Go.

Tableau, Hope, Faith and Charity.

On Monday night, the following program was presented:

Chorus, Hail Columbia, Hopkinson.

Invocation, Dr. Irenaeus Trout.

Vocal Solo, Where the Morning Glories Twine, Miss Ellen Cooper.

Annual Address, Dr. W. P. Hilburn.

Duett, Charge of the Uhlans, Mrs. Davis and Miss Chevis.

Presentation of Diplomas, W. C. Langford.

Piano Solo, Cupid's Garden, Miss Reba Bourne.

Presentation of Rewards, Prof. G. B. Davis.

Chorus, Through Sylvan Glades, Warner.

Next Tuesday will settle the business for a lot of candidates.

DeLand Record:—Volusia county will commence shipping peaches to market within the next few weeks. The recent rains came in time to help the peach fill out and mature full size. The crop, on account of the drouth, will not be as large as it was last year, but as it is it will bring considerable money into the sections growing the fruit—Lake Helen, DeLand, Beresford, Pierson and Seville.

It is admitted by those who ought to know that Gilchrist will beat Stockton in Stockton's own home county of Duval. Now, what do you think of that? If a man's home folks and neighbors won't vote for him, it argues pretty strongly that others should not.

General Gilchrist and Wine.

Arcadia Champion:—The Ocala Banner says that General Gilchrist was dined and wine four times in one day in Tampa. Wonder if he has any of those twelve times that he takes a drink in a year left by this time?

Ocala Banner:—The Ocala Banner does not remember to have said what is here imputed to it; and if it is quoted by the Champion and other newspapers to create the impression that General Gilchrist is a toper, the Ocala Banner wants to disabuse the minds of the voters and all others along that score. The general is a strictly temperate man and does not indulge in intoxicants to hurt if at all. The wine cup is not one of his weaknesses. The Ocala Banner has known him since he was a little tot and speaks from actual knowledge. Along the line of temperance, his record is as straight as a shingle. His proclivities of looking on the wine when it is red, need not give Sister Childs the least uneasiness.

Wilbur McCoy, the very capable industrial agent of the Atlantic Coast Line, in Jacksonville, was recently in St. Petersburg, and made the following statement to a reporter of the Independent:

Florida is in the ascendancy. There has been more land sold along the A. C. L. in this State during the past ninety days than for fifteen years previous. Truckers are rushing to the State. It is not a question of the price of land now—it is a question of getting the land and getting in line for big crops at big prices.

DeLand Record:—The orange crop of the State next winter will not be what the bloom indicated. There was an immense bloom, but this is not always a sure sign of a big crop. The spring drought caused a great deal of the young fruit to drop, and the wise prophets must revise their figures, cutting the crop down at least a million boxes of what was in sight in the early spring.

Fort Pierce News:—The Manatee Record says a landslide for Stockton is due on May 19th. We have later information to the effect that it is running late and its arrival is postponed indefinitely.

Jacksonville Times-Union:—Wagers are being freely offered, with no takers, that Albert Gilchrist will carry Duval county by a large majority. Comment is unnecessary.

ELECTION WARNING!

Heavy Penalties Against the Use of Liquor etc.

Organizations having been formed at Punta Gorda and other points in the county to detect and bring to punishment any and all persons who may use liquor or other unlawful means to influence votes on election day, the laws relating to this subject are printed below that all persons may be fully informed and duly warned. We are told that the organizations mentioned will demand of the officials a vigorous enforcement of the laws, which are as follows:

Sec. 3826 Revised Statutes.—Whoever by bribery, menaces, threat or other corrupt means or device whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, attempts to influence any elector in this State in giving his vote or ballot, or to deter him from giving the same, or disturbs or injures him in the free exercise of the right of suffrage at any election within this State, shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding six months or by fine not exceeding \$500.

3554, Revised Statutes.—Any person who shall carry or give away any vinous, malt spirituous or alcoholic liquors on the day of any general election within one mile of any voting place in any election district of any of the counties of Florida, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$500, or be imprisoned not more than 90 days.

Years ago girls made quilts. We remember hearing them talk about how many quilts they had. The "pine patch," the "log cabin," the "I" quilt and many other patterns. Thus they learned to sew, had a great number of quilts which are necessary in cold nights, and enjoyed the making of them. We fear we are the losers by the passing of this good old way. Now there is more talk of teas, parties and some kind of work which takes the young women out of the home and out of the home-making business. Write us down as an old fogy, if you will, but be sure to put us down in favor of the woman who is a home-maker and a home-keeper.—Chipley Banner.

Ocala Banner:—It seems to us that if Mr. Andrew Carnegie had donated to every well established weekly newspaper a type-setting machine, he would have done more for popular education than he has done in the establishment of libraries. The newspapers go into the families of the farmers, and in the course of a year do an immense amount of good in the uplift of the family by the recital of stories that lead to the sunnier side of life. While on the other hand it is impossible for the farmers and their families to visit the libraries which are nearly always located in the larger cities. The newspaper is the poor man's library.

The appreciation which Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher has shown for the newspapers, as well as his principles and his recognized ability, is almost sure to win for him the highest vote of any of the senatorial candidates in next Tuesday's primary.